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From: Gray, David
Sent: Sun 8/16/2015 4:02:33 PM
Subject: ACTION: GKM R6 Update 8/16 DUE AT 10:30 AM MT

EPA Region 6 Summary – Sunday, August 16

For New Mexico, EPA has a team of 69 employees consisting of federal on-scene coordinators, water quality experts, technicians and contractors supporting the response to the spill. Daily information meetings at the Farmington Convention Center will resume on Monday, August 17.

Last night, New Mexico announced its determination that drinking water systems and recreational activity along the Animas and San Juan rivers can resume based on water quality sampling results collected by both New Mexico Environment Department and the EPA. Reopening drinking water system intakes and allowing recreational activities is a state and local decision and we believe they have taken appropriate steps in arriving at this decision. EPA sampling results from the river collected last week similarly show that water quality conditions are returning toward pre-event conditions.

EPA continues to collect water quality samples from nine locations in the river near intakes for Aztec, Farmington, Lower Valley Water Users Association, Morning Star Water Supply

System and the North Star Water User Association. EPA will continue to sample, analyze, and make data available to support local decision makers moving forward to allow them to make the best informed decisions. Validated sampling data for the Animas and San Juan Rivers from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation collected from Aug. 9 to Aug. 10, 2015 has been released.

New Mexico also announced its determination that private domestic water well use along the Animas River can resume based on water quality sampling results collected by both New Mexico Environment Department and the EPA. EPA and NMED collected 25 water quality samples from private domestic wells yesterday.

Additionally, New Mexico reopened irrigation ditches along the Animas River for normal irrigation and livestock watering operations yesterday. EPA delivered water to three livestock locations.